

MINUTES
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES
AUGUST 21, 1997

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Thursday, August 21, 1997, at 9:00 a.m. in Conference Room 507 of the Education and Research Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

Members present: Yvonne Brown; Sara Fox; Joanna Heidel; Billy Hewes; Henry Hudspeth; John Junkin, II; Patricia Puckett; William Seal; Hazel Terry; and George Walker.

Staff in attendance: Dr. Olon Ray, Executive Director, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Becky Cade, Dr. Larry Day, Deborah Gilbert, Tracy Heggins, Sandra Lucas, Eloise Richardson, Ed Schneider, Danny Seal, Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Dr. Evelyn Webb, and Frankie White.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman George Walker at 9:00 a.m.

PRELIMINARIES

The invocation was given by Joanna Heidel.

Acknowledgments/Introductions

George Walker acknowledged the following guests present: Dr. Therrell Myers representing the State Department of Education and Andy Kanengiser representing the Clarion Ledger.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by John Junkin, seconded by Patricia Puckett, the Board approved the minutes of the July 21, 1997, meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of Agenda

On a motion by Joanna Heidel, and a second by John Junkin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda after adding an item, Consideration of Membership in the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) under the Report/Action section.

Mississippi Career Planning and Assessment System

Dr. Therrell Myers, Director of the Mississippi State Department of Education's Vocational Technical Education Division, presented a report on the 1996-1997 pilot year of the Mississippi Career Planning and Assessment System (MS-CPAS). Mississippi's secondary and post-secondary vocational technical students were assessed for work readiness utilizing the American College Testing, Inc. (ACT) Work Keys program. The program measures student achievement in three areas; Reading for Information, Locating Information, and Applied Mathematics. Approximately 1,727 community/junior college students participated in the study.

MACJC Report

Dr. Barry Mellinger, MACJC Chairman, addressed the SBCJC via the Community College Network. Dr. Mellinger reported that the MACJC had not met since the last SBCJC meeting. He updated Board members on the study of higher education on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Dr. Mellinger reported on recent meetings with the consultants, The College Board, chosen by IHL to conduct the study. During those meetings Dr. Mellinger gave a report on the efforts of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College to meet lower level course needs on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and stressed the capacity of the college to meet future needs.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Olon Ray introduced new SBCJC staff member Tracy Heggins. She will serve in the position of Publications/Media Specialist. Dr. Ray also announced that Deborah Gilbert and Debbie Borgman are interviewing applicants for the Accountant's position vacated by Derek Youngblood.

Dr. Ray updated Board members on the Mississippi Pre-paid Affordable College Tuition Program (MPACT). He stated that information on the MPACT program is now being distributed through elementary schools to ensure that every kindergarten parent in Mississippi is made aware of this excellent program. Information is also being distributed to parents of newborns by hospitals and doctors' offices. An open enrollment period for the MPACT program will begin on September 1 and end October 31, 1997.

Dr. Ray reported on the activities of the Electronic Advisory Committee comprised of representatives from all fifteen community and junior colleges to examine ways to utilize interactive video for teaching purposes. Expansion of program offerings are being examined. Efforts are also continuing to provide graduate level nursing courses over CCN in cooperation with the four year colleges and universities.

Dr. Ray stated that the Council for Educational Technology is currently working on an agenda for a fall retreat to examine different avenues of funding for future technology needs of our State. He also stated that the ability to be effective and competitive educationally in the future depends on the transition into the use of technology. However, at the present time there is no adequate, stable source of funding.

Dr. Evelyn Webb reported that Workforce Development Resource Center had been completed. The comprehensive materials bank is stocked with manuals, video tapes, interactive software, and other training aids. The materials are available to the Career Centers of the community and junior colleges. The Board was invited to view the center located on 7th floor after the meeting.

Dr. Olon Ray also commented on the study of higher education on the Gulf Coast. SBCJC member Billy Hewes and Dr. Ray attended a media briefing held by The College Board to discuss educational needs and demands of the public. Mr. Hewes addressed the Board with regard to his participation in the meetings.

The next Board meeting will be held on September 18, 1997 at 9:00 a.m. in conference room 507 of the Education and Research Center. Dr. Ray reminded the Board that a Joint Legislative Budget Office Hearing has been scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on that afternoon to present the fiscal year 1999 budget request followed by a Workforce Education hearing at 3:45 p.m. He invited all Board members to attend.

The Board has been invited to hold their October meeting at Mississippi Delta Community College. On a motion by John Junkin, and a second by William Seal, the Board voted unanimously to accept the invitation from Mississippi Delta Community College to hold the October 16, 1997, meeting at 9:00 a.m. in Moorhead, Mississippi.

REPORTS/ACTION

EdNet Report

Yvonne Brown distributed a copy of a memorandum to update Board members on EdNet activities discussed at a joint meeting of the Mississippi Authority for Educational Television (MAET) and the EdNet Board of Directors on August 18, 1997 (Exhibit B). Mrs. Brown covered key items listed on the agenda. The EdNet Board voted to request that Dr. Tom Burnham, State Superintendent of Education, Dr. Olon Ray, SBCJC Executive Director, and Dr. Tom Layzell, IHL Commissioner be added to the EdNet Board of Trustees.

After a discussion of the material, a motion by John Junkin, and a second by Patricia Puckett, the Board voted unanimously to approve the preparation of a letter to the other organizations participating on the EdNet Board (MAET, EdNet Board, IHL, and the State Department of Education), outlining areas of concern with regard to EdNet's operation. Letters would also be sent to each individual member of the EdNet Board, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, and the Speaker of the House (Exhibit C).

Finance Committee

On a motion by William Seal, and a second by Billy Hewes, the Board voted unanimously to approve the General Fund Disbursements from Fund 2298 for September 1997, in the amount of \$6,007,000 (Exhibit D).

On a motion by William Seal, and a second by Patricia Puckett, the Board voted unanimously to approve the Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement for August 31, 1997, from funds 4080 and 4110, in the amount of \$2,331,685.20 (Exhibit E).

Also included on the finance committee agenda was a copy of the bimonthly capital improvements report for Senate Bills 3304 and 3252, and House Bills 1613 and 1666 bond projects. No action was required (Exhibit F).

In other business, Deborah Gilbert reported that copies of the fifteen community and junior colleges' FY 1999 (MBR) budget requests, as well as, the composite request and the SBCJC request are available to each Board member.

Audit Procedures

Dr. Larry Day distributed a copy of the SBCJC policy on enrollment audits with proposed changes. The proposed changes were submitted to the Secretary of State's office for comment and have now completed the administrative procedures process. On a motion by John Junkin, and a second by Sara Fox, the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommended changes in enrollment audit procedures (Exhibit G).

Workforce Education Report

Mr. Walker reported on the activities of the State Workforce Development Council. The Council, in coordination with Stennis Space Center, is examining the possibility of securing a JASON Project to increase science education in Mississippi's high schools. The Council is working closely with Stennis Space Center to determine ways that technology applications can be transferred to industry and training done for industry through the community colleges.

Mr. Walker complimented SBCJC staff members and the State Workforce Council committee assigned to develop the Workforce Development Resource Center. The Center will provide an opportunity for colleges to share materials and resources for training purposes.

Mr. Walker also stated that the State Workforce Development Council has assigned a committee that will meet on Tuesday, August 26, 1997, to plan and develop a workforce education presentation for the Joint Legislative Budget Office hearing scheduled for September 18, 1997, at 3:45 p.m. Mr. Walker also reported on a committee appointed to review and expedite the Industrial Training degree program.

Mr. Walker reported on concerns of employers and the State Workforce Council related to quality secondary public education. A Council committee has been appointed to try to get employers involved with educational institutions of the State in order to recommend methods to prepare high school students for the world of work.

Patricia Puckett commented on a recent District Workforce Council meeting she attended at Northwest Mississippi Community College. During the meeting Joyce Brasell, Northwest Career Center Director, presented an accountability report of Northwest's training during fiscal year 1997. Mrs. Puckett participated in a goal setting session for the upcoming year. Priorities identified during the session included reading and math skills, communication skills, computer skills, work ethics, and the ability to work as a team. Also during the meeting a plan was developed to better inform local legislators about the need for workforce training.

Consideration of Membership in the Association of Community College Trustees

On a motion by John Junkin, and a second by Billy Hewes, the Board voted unanimously to join the Association of Community College Trustees for a one year period and to review extension of that membership at the end of that time.

GED Report

Dr. Wayne Stonecypher reported that in 1996, Mississippi recorded a 33% increase in the number of individuals taking the GED exam, the largest in the nation.

Proprietary School and College Report

Danny Seal updated Board members on the activities of the Commission on Proprietary Schools and College Registration (Exhibit H). Mr. Seal stated that CPSCR Chairman, Curtis Davis, is continuing to recover from heart surgery. The next Commission meeting is scheduled today at 1:00 p.m.

Gulf Coast Region/Regional Center Report

Dr. Wayne Stonecypher reported on staff involvement in providing requested information to College Board in connection with the Gulf Coast Region study. The study is researching needs and demands for expanding educational opportunities in the region.

Travel Authorizations

Chairman Walker asked for requests to authorize travel reimbursements for events other than regularly scheduled Board meetings. On a motion by Patricia Puckett, seconded by John Junkin, the Board voted unanimously to approve requests for reimbursement of travel expenses to following:

George Walker for attending State Workforce Council committee meetings on August 13, August 26, and September 10, 1997.

Patricia Puckett for attending a District Workforce Council meeting in Senatobia at Northwest Community College on August 12, 1997.

Joanna Heidel and Yvonne Brown for attending an EdNet meeting on August 18, 1997.

Billy Hewes for attending Gulf Coast Region study meetings on August 14, 1997.

Other Business

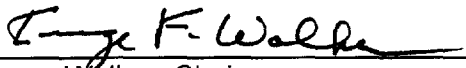
In other business, upon staff recommendation, a motion by John Junkin, and a second by Henry Hudspeth, the Board voted unanimously to authorize staff to submit proposed GED testing guidelines for alternative school programs, to the Secretary of State's Office to begin the administrative procedures process (Exhibit I).

Also, upon staff recommendation, a motion by Henry Hudspeth, and a second by John Junkin, the Board voted unanimously to allow a salary increase from \$15.00 to \$18.00 per instructional hour for speciality skilled instructors in workforce programs (Exhibit J).

Upon staff recommendation, a motion by John Junkin, and a second by Henry Hudspeth, the Board voted unanimously to approve the recommendations for use of the state held licensed programs including Zenger-Miller, Zig Ziglar, Phi Theta Kappa Leadership, and Plexus Epic ISO-9000 and QS-9000 Training (Exhibit K).

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.


George Walker, Chairman


Olon E. Ray
Executive Director